

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

/082 W

-----150909Z 074374 /20

O R 150837Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4508

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4972

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FDIP, KS, MR

SUBJECT: ROK RELATIONS WITH MAURITANIA

REFS: (A) SEOUL 4782 (DTG 090829Z JUN 77), (B) NOUAKCHOTT 1319

(DTG 071655Z JUN 77) NOTAL, (C) NOUAKCHOTT 1359 (DTG 111205Z

JUN 77) NOTAL, (D) STATE 136949 (DTG 140116Z JUN 77) NOTAL

SUMMARY: KOREANS CONTINUE PLANNING FOR EFFORT TO ESTABLISH
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH MAURITANIA. END SUMMARY

1. HYON HI-KANG, MOFA WEST AFRICA DIVISION CHIEF, TOLD
EMBOFF JUNE 14 THAT KOREANS WILL MAKE A BID FOR FULL
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH MAURITANIA, BUT ARE STILL
WAITING FOR INFORMATION TO HELP THEM DECIDE ON PRECISE
MODALITIES OF ANTICIPATED EFFORT. HYON SAID HE UNDERSTANDS
MAURITANIAN AMBASSADOR TO MOROCCO WILL GO TO NOUAKCHOTT
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AROUND JUNE 15 FOR CONSULTATIONS, AND ANTICIPATES THAT
UPON HIS RETURN TO RABAT, AMBASSADOR WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE
EITHER A FORMAL REPLY TO, OR AT LEAST INFORMAL
ADVICE CONCERNING, KORAN MAY 27 PROPOSAL IN RABAT FOR
FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HYON SAID FURTHER THAT IF
MAURITANIANS DO NOT IMMEDIATELY ACCEPT PROPOSAL, HE
ANTICIPATES THAT FISHERY JOINT VENTURE MISSION, WHICH WILL

BE PREPARED TO DEPART FOR NOUAKCHOTT BY END OF JUNE, COULD CONSTITUTE FIRST STEP IN LONGER PROCESS TOWARDS RELATIONS, PROGRESSING THROUGH INFORMAL CONTACTS BY THE MISSION WITH MAURITANIAN OFFICIALS, THEN TO OFFICIAL NEGOTIATIONS, AND FINALLY ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS.

2. HYON SAID KOREANS HAVE NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER FISHERY MISSION SHOULD INCLUDE ROKG OFFICIALS, OR PRECISELY HOW MISSION SHOULD PURSUE DIPLOMATIC GOALS. HYON TOLD EMBOFF JUNE 10 KOREANS MAY REQUEST AMERICAN ADVICE ON THESE POINTS. HOWEVER, ON JUNE 14 HYON SAID ROKG HAS DECIDED FOR TIME BEING NOT TO REQUEST U.S. ANALYSES. (COMMENT: APPEARS KOREANS MAY HOLD OFF ON FURTHER DECISIONS UNTIL MAURITANIAN AMBASSADOR RETURNS TO RABAT.)

3. APPEARS MOFA IS REASONABLY WELL INFORMED OF MAURITANIAN DEVELOPMENS AND ATTITUDES, AND HAS SOME APPRECIATION OF PROBLEMS OF MAURITANIAN POLITICS. WHEN EMBOFF BRIEFED HYON JUNE 14 ON SITUATION AND GO-SLOW THRUST OF NOUAKCHOTT MESSAGES, HE RESPONDED MOFA HAD ALREADY ACQUIRED VIRTUNALY SAME INFORMATION FROM OTHER U.S. SOURCES.
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